

Remarks/Arguments

Reconsideration of this application is requested.

Claim Status

Claims 3-9 and 13-23 were previously presented. Claims 7, 9 and 22 are canceled, without prejudice. Claims 3-6, 8, 13-21 and 23 are now pending.

Allowed Claims

The allowance of claims 3-6, 8, 13-21 and 23 is noted and appreciated.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC 103

Claims 7, 9 and 22 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as obvious over Baba (US 5,987,129) in view of Matyas (US 4,736,423). In response, claims 7, 9 and 22 are canceled, without prejudice.

Conclusion

This application is now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned to resolve any issues that remain after entry of this amendment. Any fees due with this response may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 50-1314.

Respectfully submitted,
HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.

Date: January 23, 2006

By: 

Troy M. Schmelzer
Registration No. 36,667
Attorney for Applicant(s)

500 South Grand Avenue, Suite 1900
Los Angeles, California 90071
Phone: 213-337-6700
Fax: 213-337-6701